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AUTHOR	Donaldson, Morgaen L., Ed.; Poon, Brian, Ed.
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ABSTRACT

This collection of papers presents the reflections of five beginning public school teachers from the greater Boston area on their first years in teaching. They share lessons garnered from teaching, writing, and reflecting together on their introductory experiences. As their first months in teaching passed, they found themselves working in some degree of isolation, without the mechanisms to reflect on their situations or effectively strategize to improve them. They joined together to write, reflect, and support each other. The eight chapters include: (1) "An Invitation to Reflection, Mulled Cider, and Honest Emotions" (Morgaen L. Donaldson and Brian Poon); (2) "Pedagogy as Pasta: The Inexact Art of Teaching" (Kelly Klinefelter Lee); (3) "Teaching with Care" (Brian Poon); (4) "Teaching to Question" (Allyson Mizoguchi); (5) "Vulnerable Relationships: Connections Between Family and Teaching" (Marco Curnen); (6) "Teaching and Traditionalism: Encounters with 'The Way It's Always Been'" (Morgaen L. Donaldson); (7) "Leaders! Listen Carefully to These Hopes, These Frustrations" (Myrna Mather); and (8) "Of Hair Stylists and Master Teachers" (Ross Danis). (SM)

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